

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Akron, Ohio

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Minutes of the Session Meeting – FINAL

*Be adaptive, engaging, generous, inclusive and relevant. Be faithful. Be Westminster!*

The regular meeting of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was called to order by Moderator Rev. David Aber at 7:03 p.m.

Elders (+ present, \* excused, - absent)

Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
* Rob Gilbert	+ Ellen Daugherty	+ Dan Gorring
* Sandy Gruneich	+ Dottie Erb	* Becky Pool
+ Ginny Mever	+ Brian Rodabaugh	+ Dave Stobbs
+ Don Rearick	+ Alec Works, Clerk of Session	+ Rosemary Wright

Also present: Rev. David Aber, Moderator.

**Opening, Declaration of Quorum, Welcomes and Goodbyes**

Pastor David called the meeting to order and opened the Session meeting with prayer at 7:03 pm. The presence of a quorum was confirmed and declared.

**Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda**

A **motion prevailed** to adopt and approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented.

**Clerk's Report**

Alec Works, Clerk

A letter was received from the trustee for the estate of former member Orlene Makinson, who died on January 20, 2022. See Finance report for details. A request for a baptism certificate was received from Chris (Blakley) Potkanowicz, born in 1960. She was notified that there was no record of her baptism here.

Draft minutes from the April 26, 2022 meeting were distributed. Pastor David added some comments for his report. Minutes will be formally approved in June.

Alec agreed to send information on signing onto the Google account for Session members.

The Consent Agenda as approved included the following motions:

**2022-084 MOTION prevailed** to receive the following report of all weddings, funerals, baptisms, and Communion that have taken place since Session's March 22, 2022 meeting:

1. Weddings: none
2. Funerals: Eleanor Humphrey (#7241, died 1/12/22), interment service, Westminster Memorial Garden, 4/24/22; Mary Jo Stasell (#4560, died 6/25/20), memorial service at Westminster, May 6, 2022, both led by Rev. David Aber.
3. Baptisms: none
4. Communion: 5/8/22 = 95; there were also 42 viewings of the service on YouTube.

Reports of average worship attendance for April (4 in person worship services, excluding Maundy Thursday) = 109 (including 159 on Easter Sunday, 4/17). Average viewings on YouTube for April = 81. [Note: In person worship resumed on June 6, 2021. Live broadcast and recorded services are being made available through YouTube.]

**2022-085 MOTION prevailed** to approve the membership statistical report for the month of April 2022:

Total Membership as of 4/1/22	276
Additions: none	0
Deletions: Phil Fry (# 7423)	1
Deaths: Suzanne Kristi Paskert (# 4036)	1
Total Membership as of 3/31/22	274

No motions are needed to remove members.

From Outreach:

**2022-086 MOTION prevailed** to distribute local funds from the Pentecost Offering evenly among the Helen Arnold, Robinson, and Finley Learning Centers.

**Pastor's Discussion / Transition**

Pastor David, Moderator

The Holy Cow congregational survey was scheduled to end May 24. However, some members reported either not receiving the link or mistakenly deleting it. It was decided to extend the survey by a week and resend the link to members of the congregation.

Pastor David reported that the Nominating Committee is working on securing names to submit for the Pastoral Nominating Committee. He reported that Pat Schumacher has been filling in for custodian Dave Bodnar until he is able to return to work. A brunch was held at the O'neil House on May 12 to honor Bob Carlyon and Margo Works, who will be completing their work as interim employees at the end of May.

Pastor David noted that since he started as a part-time interim, he has presided at 3 funerals, but has only been paid for 2. He noted that he is willing to preside over the 8:30 a.m. worship service in June and July, but that doing so might entail an additional night's lodging in Akron. If any budget adjustments are needed for additional lodging, they may be considered in the next contract. A decision as to whether to continue the services in /august will be based upon participation in June and July. The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

**2022-087 MOTION prevailed** to amend the funeral policy to include a \$300 payment to be made to a presiding interim pastor.

**Committee Reports and Actions**

**Personnel Committee** (No minutes nor motions)

Pastor David for John Childs

The committee drafted a job description for the staff accountant position. See motions under Finance.

Pastor David reported that Claudine Schooley, Office Administrator, gave her notice to leave her position at the end of June to move with her husband to his new out-of-state job. Personnel has been informed and hiring someone to work full-time is being considered.

**Finance Committee** (No minutes; see motions below)

Alec Works for Todd Willis

Alec Works has been continuing to serve as acting accountant, focusing on processing payroll and accounts payable. Based on currently available (unaudited) data through 4/30/22 (i.e., what has been processed and posted), actual revenues were \$155,154; budget was \$165,932. Actual expenses were \$112,235; budget was \$182,919. Expenses were significantly below budget for Personnel. Net is a surplus of \$42,919; the budget showed a projected deficit of \$16,987.

The Bequest Fund includes a gift from the trustee for the Orlene Makinson estate. It is their hope that we can find a suitable memorial to Orlene.

The following motions were presented and approved:

**2022-088 MOTION prevailed** to approve contracting with Diaz Bookkeeping for Meaghan Diaz to serve as Interim Accountant from June through September 15.

**2022-089 MOTION prevailed** to approve hiring Lou Camerota as Staff Accountant beginning in September 2022.

Note: Both positions are subject to candidates approving contract terms and passing a background check.

**Properties Committee** (May minutes were attached; see motion below)

Ginny Melver

Ginny provided updates on various projects. She noted that the Building Use Forms, which are kept by Claudine Schooley, Office Administrator, will be amended to include billing information.

**Worship Committee** (May minutes were attached; see motions below)

Brian Rodabaugh for Stacy Franzmann

The following motion prevailed:

**2022-090 MOTION prevailed** to approve that Rev. David Aber be compensated \$200 for the Jazz Vespers service on May 15, 2022, which was not part of his original responsibilities. This is the same amount we paid Tom Ulrich in December. It would be taken from the pulpit supply.

A proposed motion regarding summer musicians was not acted upon at the April meeting. Alec subsequently clarified with the moderator that funding in the past has been provided by the Seiberling and Brideweser Funds. The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

**2022-091 MOTION prevailed** to approve paying \$75 for a summer soloist/instrumentalist for the 10:30 service and \$100 for a summer soloist/instrumentalist doing both the 8:30 and the 10:30 services, with funding provided by the Seiberling Fund for June and August, and the Brideweser Fund for July.

**Discipleship Committee** (May minutes were attached, see motion below)

The following motion was prevailed:

**2022-092 MOTION prevailed** to approve an ice cream social to be held August 20. Entertainment and costs are to be determined.

The desire and need to keep younger families involved was discussed, including ideas for a staff member to help lead.

**Outreach Committee** (May minutes were attached; see consent agenda for motions)

Ellen Daugherty

Ellen reminded members that Undie Sunday is June 5. The committee is still considering participation in the Pride Festival in August.

**Deacons** (May minutes were attached)

The following motion was prevailed:

**2022-093 MOTION prevailed** to approve a luncheon after church the first Sunday after Labor Day. Costs are to be determined. [Clerk's note: This has typically been Rally Day, starting the new church school year.]

**Safety and Security Task Force**

Don Rearick

Don reported that reported covid cases continue to be low for Summit County.

**Membership** (No report)

**Old / New / Other Business**

The next meeting of Eastminster Presbytery is at 11:00 a.m. in person on June 7, 2022 at Northminster Presbyterian Church. Dave and Ginny offered to represent us, along with Pastor David.

The following motion prevailed:

**2022-094 MOTION prevailed** to elect Ginny Melver and Dave Stobbs as commissioners to the June 7 meeting of Eastminster Presbytery.

The next regular Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 7 p.m.

The following motion prevailed:

**2022-095 MOTION prevailed** to receive all of the above reports as presented.

There was no other new business. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was then closed in prayer at 8:23 p.m.

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Alec Works, Clerk of Session

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Rev. David Aber, Moderator